

Organic Certification

Organic Certification Program



See Also:

- What Is Organic?
- Organic Production in Montana
- National Organic Program
- Organic Crop Production
- Organic Livestock Production
- Organic Handling Facilities
- Organic Certification
- How to be Certified
- Converting to Organic Production
- Sources of Organic Information

For more information, contact:

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Definition

Organic Certification is the process by which a producer or handler of agricultural products provides independent third-party verification that they follow organic standards.

Advantage

Certification allows producers or handlers to label or otherwise identify their products as organic and gain access to premium markets.

Eligibility

Any producer or handler of agricultural crops, livestock or wild crops may apply to the Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA) for organic certification.

Requirements

- Comply with all applicable standards in the National Organic Program (NOP) Rule and all administrative rules adopted by the MDA.
- Complete annual application and organic system plan forms, including necessary attachments, supplied by the MDA.
- Maintain all necessary records and documentation for purchased materials, production or handling operations and product sales. Records must be available at least five years from date of creation.
- Permit annual on-site inspection of production or handling operation by MDA designated inspectors.
- Submit all appropriate fees for certification services to the MDA.